

- The Department of Commerce will take in the Employment Security Commission, and together they will strengthen their focus on stabilizing the economy, growing jobs and preparing the workforce.
- The Department of Administration will be renamed and refocused – the new Department of Management and Administration will become the chief operations unit for state government, and will take in ITS, the Office of State Personnel and the Controller's Office.
- In moving ITS, up to 100 computer service units will be closed and a private company will contract with the state to consolidate IT services into a centralized location, saving money and providing better service.
- The purchasing functions currently scattered throughout state government will be consolidated and privatized to find savings through bulk purchasing and coordinated bid requests.
- These changes alone will save tens of millions of dollars, and will result in leaner personnel rosters.

Step 2: Eliminate

As a result of the structural consolidation, Perdue's plan includes eliminating "back office functions." These include such functions as human resources, purchasing, training and administration. Specifics about these cuts, including the dollars saved, will be detailed in the governor's budget.

Step 3: Freeze

Gov. Perdue called for a hiring freeze of non-critical positions in all of her cabinet agencies and asked Council of State and other agencies to do the same.

Step 4: Review Boards and Commissions

Perdue also pledged to present the General Assembly with a list of 150 boards and commissions, with the request that they review them and only sign off on those that are justifiably needed. More than 400 boards and commissions exist, with over 4,000 appointees, and more than half of those receive support from state-funded agencies.

"Today I set the stage for what will be even harder choices next year, but I have never been one to shy away from the tough decisions," Perdue told the crowd. "Today, as we look around the great state, we see what has always made NC the best state in the nation. We are in tough times, but we are fighters. We are innovators, and we are leaders. We are growing jobs, we are reforming our schools, and we are tackling the problems that are slowing our progress.

"We have the will – and the guts – and the resolve to do whatever it takes. We will set government straight and we will get it right. And North Carolina, our people, and especially our children, will be better for it."